

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Leonard Stevens et al.

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CLOSING A SEVERED STERNUM

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16834 U.S. PTO
10/699208
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PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith for filing, please find the following:

- Specification, claims and abstract of the above-referenced patent application (total of 20 pages)
- 5 sheet(s) of drawing(s) formal) Figures 1-7.
- Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney (Unsigned).
- An Assignment of the invention to:
- Applicant(s) claim(s) small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27.
- Other (specify):
1. Relationship of Claims in Present Application to U.S. Patent Application No. 10/095,324
2. Check in amount of \$427.00 as filing fee
3. Acknowledgment postcard .
- This application is a:

- Continuation
 Divisional
 Continuation-In-Part

of prior co-pending parent application Serial No. 10/095,324 filed on March 7, 2002, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent No. 6,540,769, filed on October 31, 2001.

In the event that a petition to extend time under 37 CFR 1.136 is necessary in the parent application to maintain copendency for this application, a petition for an extension of the necessary time to maintain copendency is hereby requested for the parent application and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to debit our Account Number 10-0447 for the necessary fees.

The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

FOR: SMALL ENTITY	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	RATE	FEE
BASIC FEE				\$385
TOTAL CLAIMS	19- 20	0	\$9	\$
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	4- 3	1	\$42	\$ 42
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) PRESENTED				\$260 \$ _____
TOTAL FEE:				\$427

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- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees during the pendency of this application or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0447.
- Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17 and under 37 CFR 1.20(d).
- The issue fee set in 37 CFR 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.311(b).

X Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 including fees for presentation of extra claims.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKENS & GILCHRIST, P.C.

By:



J. Pat Heptig
Reg. No. 40,643

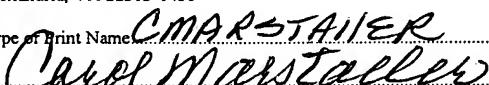
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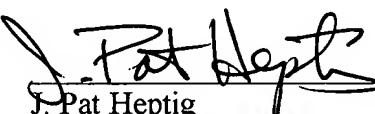
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Dear Sir:

RELATIONSHIP OF CLAIMS IN PRESENT APPLICATION TO U.S. PATENT
APPLICATION NO. 10/095,324

Claims 1-19 of the present application have been copied from the claims of pending U.S. Patent Application No. 10/095,324 for the purpose of provoking an interference proceeding between the present application and U.S. Patent Application No. 10/095,324.


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